

TOWN OF CECILTON
MAYOR AND COUNCIL WORK SESSION MEETING
Wednesday, May 14, 2008
7:00 p.m.

The Town Council held a Work Session Meeting at Town Hall on Wednesday, May 14, 2008. The following were in attendance:

John J. Bunnell, Mayor

Michael Cooper, Member

Terry Moore, Member

Joseph A. Zang, III, Member

Craig DeVary, Member

Call to Order: 7:00 p.m.

All in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

ELECTION REPORT:

Brenda Ross – Chair

Brenda Ross read the Election Report (attached) before the Mayor and Council and those in attendance. Mayor Bunnell announced that notice of the run-off election on June 2, 2008 would be posted in the Cecil Whig.

OATH OF OFFICE:

Council Member Joseph A. Zang, III, Member

Mayor John J. Bunnell swore in Joseph A. Zang, III to another term on the Town Council.

ORGANIZATIONAL PROTOCOL PER THE CHARTER OF THE TOWN OF CECILTON

Member Zang made a motion to postpone the Organizational Protocol Per The Charter of The Town of Cecilton meeting until The Mayor and Council meet at the Workshop Meeting on June 11, 2008. Member Moore seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Patricia Taylor requested the Mayor and Council change the agenda so that the New Business of Oath of Office would take place earlier, so that the members of the Board of Elections would be able to leave the meeting if they so desired. The Mayor and Council agreed to the request.

OATH OF OFFICE:

Board of Elections – Patricia Taylor and Mary Foraker

Member Cooper made a motion to reappoint Patricia Taylor and Mary Foraker to the Board of Elections Supervisor. Member DeVary seconded the motion. The motion carried. The Mayor swore in Patricia Taylor and Mary Foraker.

REVIEW AND ACT:

April 28, 2008 Regular Session Minutes

Member DeVary made a motion to accept the April 28, 2008 Regular Session Minutes as written. Member Zang seconded the motion. The motion carried.

April 2008 Preliminary Financials

Reviewed without comment.

NEW BUSINESS:

Oath of Office Board of Appeals, Kim Dixon and Steven Duphily

Mayor Bunnell announced that the Oath of Office for the Board of Appeals would be rescheduled for the next Mayor and Council Regular Session Meeting.

Rebecca Smith Proclamation

Mayor Bunnell explained that the Cecil Whig newspaper sponsors a friendly competition to find influential citizens that have had great impact on their surroundings during their lifetime. The name of the award is the Cecil Whig's 2008 Women's Trailblazer Award. This year Rebecca Smith has been chosen to receive this award. Mayor Bunnell read the Rebecca Smith Proclamation (attached) to those in attendance. The proclamation declared May 16, 2008 as Rebecca Smith Day in the Town of Cecilton. Member Cooper made a motion to adopt the proclamation by the Mayor and Council of the Town of Cecilton to a Day of Honor for Rebecca Smith, May 16, 2008. Member DeVary seconded the motion. The motion carried. The Mayor explained to those present that Ms. Smith's name has also been added to the Recognition of Excellence in Community Service to The Town of Cecilton plaque that is displayed in Town Hall. He went on to say that The Town Administrator, the Town Clerk/Treasurer and himself would be attending the Women's Trailblazer Award Dinner in Rising Sun on May 15, 2008. At that dinner the Mayor will be presenting a plaque that has an artist signed and numbered print of the Town of Cecilton seal, as well as a copy of the proclamation.

Budget Proposal FY2009

The Mayor announced a public hearing for the 2009 budget would be scheduled for the next Mayor and Council Meeting on May 27, 2008 and a notice will be placed in the Cecil Whig newspaper. He also brought to everyone's attention that the Town is not raising the constant yield. He said during his entire administration it has been 24 cents per 100.00 assessment. He explained that as the State of Maryland reassesses the properties in the Town the assessments usually raise due to the increase in property values. That will result in an increase in taxes when the 24 cents is multiplied by the higher assessed rate. He went on to explain that the Town is required to put a notice in the paper stating that the Town is receiving more tax revenue. That revenue is received due to the reassessments not because the Town raised the constant yield.

Employee Paid Holidays

The Town Administrator explained that the employees in the Town of Cecilton do not receive the same paid holidays as the State, County or other municipalities in the County of Cecilton. Mayor Bunnell explained that in the past, if the Town Hall were to close on holidays that are not included in the list of eligible paid holidays, the employees must use a vacation day or a personal day to compensate for the time. He read the request memo from Brenda Cochran, Town Administrator (attached) requesting additional paid holidays for full time employees with attached documentation as to the State Paid Holidays, County Paid Holidays and other Cecil County Municipalities Paid Holidays. He explained that currently the Cecilton employees receive 9 paid holidays, while the documentation shows that State, County and other Municipalities are giving 12 days as paid holidays to employees.

Member Zang made a motion to include the following holidays as paid: The day after Thanksgiving, President's Day and Christmas Eve day in addition to the current paid holidays to make a total of twelve paid holidays. Member Cooper seconded the motion. The motion carried.

The State of the Municipality Address 2008 "THE HOME STRETCH"

Mayor Bunnell read his State of the Municipality Address 2008, The Home Stretch (attached).

OLD BUSINESS:

Final Reading of Ordinance #2008-01 – An Ordinance To Amend The Town of Cecilton's Water and Sewer Ordinances:

The Mayor read Ordinance #2008-01 (attached). Member DeVary made a motion to adopt an amendment to the Cecilton Code of Ordinances #2008-01, an Ordinance to amend the Water and Sewer Ordinance Chapter 4, Article 3, Section 102A. Member Moore seconded the motion. The motion carried.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

Public Comments:

None

Good of the Order:

The Mayor said all the residents of Cecil County should have received a copy of the booklet, "From My Backyard to the Bay". It is a guide for Cecil County residents to follow to improve the environment and water resources.

Mayor Bunnell read a letter from the Chesapeake Country National Scenic Byway with an update on the status of the "Town Gateway" signage. The byway alliance received notice from Maryland State Highway Administration's Office of Traffic and Safety that the sign materials and specifications do not comply with the Manual of Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) and the sign plan did not contain the cross-section survey drawings required to complete installation. At this time they are having a sign contractor fabricate a sample sign using MUTCD compliant materials. They also mentioned they do not have a time frame for completion until they have approval from MUTCD and OTTS.

The Mayor read a letter from Rebecca Byrd, Events Coordinator for the Granary Restaurant announcing that Bruce and Jerren Wetterau have added the Kitty Knight House to their operations. They will open the doors to the Kitty Knight House on Memorial Day Weekend 2008.

The Mayor announced if anyone wanted to see the Traffic Impact Study for the proposed Royal Farms, it is in Town Hall. It has not been reviewed by Planning and Zoning at this time.

He announced that "Show It All Off" the Cecil County Arts Council's Member Exhibition is June 13 – July 11, 2008.

The Mayor also announced that The United States Air Force Band, "Silver Wings" shall be performing at the Annex on Saturday, May 17, 2008. It is a free concert put on for the Citizens by the Cecilton Lions Club and the Town of Cecilton and the Cecil County Arts Council.

The Mayor said that the Mayor and Council Regular Meeting has been moved from Monday, May 26, 2008 to Tuesday, May 27, 2008 due to the Memorial Day Holiday. He also said the June 23, 2008 meeting would have to reschedule to June 16, 2008 due to the fact the office staff will be in Ocean City Maryland for the MML Conference.

The Town Administrator said a citizen came into Town Hall and asked if the Town could provide a dumpster for the citizens to use for yard waste so that they would not have to haul the yard waste to Stemmer's Run. Member Moore said that Stemmer's Run alternates each week between brush and metal waste. Trish Taylor also asked if the Town could get a street cleaner vacuum truck to come to the Town once a month or so. The Mayor asked the Town Administrator to look into the cost of both these requests.

ADJOURN:

Respectfully submitted:

Patricia Trucksess

Approved:

John J. Bunnell
Mayor